



March 30, 2011

Dear Parent or Guardian,

In September 2010, Arthur Hill High School and Thompson Middle School were awarded 7.2 million dollars from the Michigan Department of Education. The 2010-11 School Improvement Grant provided our schools with significant funding for professional development, professional support staff, and supplies to support student achievement.

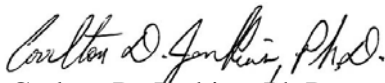
In order to continue receiving funding, the school must meet grant requirements and attain student performance outcomes. One of the requirements of the School Improvement Grant is increased learning time. The District's Transformational Leadership team, which includes administrators, union leadership, teachers and parents, were working to increase learning time for implementation next school year. On March 14, we were informed by the Michigan Department of Education that we could not wait until next school year for implementation. In order to continue receiving funding, we had to submit a plan to the State by March 28. As a result, effective **Monday, April 11, 2011**, we are extending the school day by 30 minutes. The increase in time will provide approximately 5 minutes for our core academic courses.

New start times beginning Monday, April 11, 2011:

- Arthur Hill High School- **7:30am** – 2:49pm
- Thompson Middle School- **7:40am** – 2:56pm

If you have any questions regarding the increase in learning time, please contact your building principal. We look forward to working with the community, parents, teachers and students as we implement the transformation model for the students at the identified schools.

Sincerely,


Carlton D. Jenkins, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION